

# Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services 2020 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report



Youth Care Center  
727 Chestnut Street  
Evansville, IN 47713

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## Auditors

Rachel McCaffrey, Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections, Indiana Department of Correction  
Terrie Decker, DYS Executive Director of Youth Services, Indiana Department of Correction  
Kristin Herrmann, Youth Law T.E.A.M. of Indiana  
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Indiana Department of Correction  
Division of Youth Services  
302 W. Washington St. Rm. E334, Indianapolis, IN 46204

**Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services  
2020 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report**

Facility: Youth Care Center  
727 Chestnut Street  
Evansville, IN 47713

Inspection Date: August 12, 2020

Auditors: Rachel McCaffrey  
Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections  
Division of Youth Services, Indiana Department of Correction  
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## **INTRODUCTION**

The 2020 annual juvenile detention facility evaluations conducted by the IDOC, Division of Youth Services would normally consist of three on-site facility inspections; staff and youth interviews; and an audit of the state detention standards. Due to the covid-19 global pandemic, we conducted one on-site facility inspection, along with staff and youth interviews, an audit of the state detention standards, and conducted testing on the candlelight levels and ventilation in accordance to the standards requirement.

While the proposed Indiana Juvenile Detention Facility Standards are in the process of being promulgated, Detention Facilities had the option to be audited on three hundred one (301) current detention standards or the corresponding two hundred and thirty-seven (237) proposed juvenile detention facility standards.

Youth Care Center chose to be audited on the two hundred and thirty-seven (237) proposed juvenile detention facility standards in 2020, for their 24th annual detention inspection. Of the two hundred and thirty-seven (237) standards audited, sixteen (16) standards require mandatory compliance and the remaining two hundred and twenty-one (221) are recommended standards. Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and 90% of the recommended standards is required to attain "Full Compliance." Again, Centers that chose to be audited on the proposed detention standards were only required to meet the expectation of the current detention standards. Youth Care Center chose to also provide documentation on the extra standards with exclusively new requirements. The breakdown of each audit listed below is only reflective of the current standards.

**FACILITY INFORMATION**

<b>Facility county:</b>	Vanderburgh
<b>Governing authority:</b>	Youth Care Center
<b>Name of facility administrator:</b>	Joshua Nichols
<b>Detention Director:</b>	Joshua Nichols
<b>Detention facility’s mission:</b>	<p>A. To provide the highest quality of treatment and individual care to children who are in trouble with the law and to children in need of services</p> <p>B. To always be family inclusive in our approach to helping children and to look beyond our current function to see what needs we might address through program diversification or expansion of our program</p> <p>C. To include community experts and /or services in our attempt to resolve bio/psycho/socio/spiritual/medical needs of our at-risk youth.</p>
<b>Rated capacity:</b>	40
<b>Population on date of first audit:</b>	18
<b>Average daily population for the last 12 months:</b>	20.8
<b>Average length of stay for the last 12 months:</b>	35.4 days
<b>Minor upgrades since last audit (i.e. painting, flooring, bedding, furnishings):</b>	General maintenance and upkeep, as needed
<b>Major upgrades since last audit (i.e. plumbing, electrical, security system):</b>	Installed a new door locking system and upgraded video infrastructure
<b>De-escalation techniques training:</b>	Non-violent physical crisis intervention
<b>Physical force techniques training:</b>	Non-violent physical intervention
<b>Chemical agents permitted:</b>	No
<b>Name of food service provider:</b>	CRS One/Farm Boy
<b>Name of food service supervisor:</b>	David Wenning
<b>Name of health care authority individual or agency and license/certification:</b>	Richard Probert, MD Kim Sullenger, RN – 30 hours a week
<b>Name of mental health care authority individual or agency and license/certification:</b>	Dr. Cassandra Schmidt, 40 hours a week

<b>Education Services:</b>	Residents are provided education in the common areas on both the male and female units. Monday-Friday from 8:15am-1:45pm with a break at 10:00am for staff and residents and lunch from 11:30am-12pm. Residents resume education at 12:15 pm. All residents complete the TABE assessment to determine where they are academically before they are assigned lesson plans by the teacher. We also provide a GED instructor that comes to the facility.
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**Vanderburg County 2020 Audit**

<b>Standards:</b>	<b><u>All Mandatory Standards, Security Standards, and Training Plan (8-3-52)</u></b>
<b>On-site Visit Conducted: August 12, 2020</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Fifty-One Total Standards Audited</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>16 Mandatory and 35 Recommended</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>1 Administration Standard, 7 Safety Standards, 23 Security Standards, 3 Food Service and Hygiene Standards, 15 Medical Standards, and 2 Mental Health Standards</u></b></li> <li>• Number of Standards Not Applicable: 0</li> <li>• Number of Mandatory Standards in Compliance: 16</li> <li>• Number of Recommended Standards in Compliance: 35</li> </ul>
<b>Auditors:</b>	Rachel McCaffrey, Terrie Decker, and Kristin Herrmann (Inspection) Kristin Herrmann (Files)
<b>Facility Tour:</b>	The facility tour was conducted by Joshua Nichols. This inspection focused on mandatory standards. Areas such as medical, janitorial closet, kitchen, visitation rooms, search areas, private interview rooms, youth rooms, youth living areas, personal and property areas, mechanical and safety areas were inspected. It was ensured that staff had access to the Emergency Manual.
<b>Youth Interviews:</b>	One male and one female were interviewed.
<b>Youth Responses:</b>	Both youths stated that they had never felt unsafe and that the facility was clean and comfortable. One youth did mention that some of the sinks do not work. One confirmed that they had participated in a fire drill. One youth had suggestions for the facility to have better food and be allowed to have more showers. Any concerns were brought to the attention of the facility director.
<b>Staff Interviews:</b>	Two line staff were interviewed with one having control room experience.

<b>Staff Responses:</b>	Both staff described the procedures for an emergency evacuation/drill. Juveniles are released by control and the staff are trained on how to get the juveniles to a safe place. In the event of loss of power there is a back-up generator and a key kept in control. They described the information kept in the permanent logs being count of all kids, showers, education, medical, movement, meals, and every fifteen-minute checks. Both went on to say that facility searches are performed depending on the need of it, but minimally done twice a week. Both confirmed that they received medical and mental health training and continue to receive it annually. Lastly, they described the procedure of dealing with youth detoxification. The youth are assessed before they enter the facility have to be medically cleared.
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	None
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None

<b>Standards:</b>	<b>Safety, Justice &amp; Order, and Education Standards</b>
<b>Desk Audit Conducted</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>70 Total Recommended Standards Audited</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>27 Safety Standards, 37 Justice &amp; Order Standards, and 6 Education Standards</u></b></li> <li>• Number of Standards Not Applicable: 0</li> <li>• Number of Recommended Standards in Compliance: 70</li> </ul>
<b>Auditor:</b>	Rachel McCaffrey
<b>Youth Interviews:</b>	One male and one female were interviewed.
<b>Youth Responses:</b>	Both youths confirmed that they had read their facility handbook and a copy was available to them upon request. Both felt they understood the rules and found them and the punishments fair. They had both had contact with a probation officer, court official, or attorney and said that their contact was made private. One did express concern about the phone being very static and hard to hear. Both said they knew the procedure for filing a grievance and understood they could appeal a denial. Neither youth had any comment the education program due to it being summer at the time.
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	None
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None

<b>Standards:</b>	<b><u>Food Service &amp; Hygiene, Medical, Mental Health, and Program Standards</u></b>
<b>Desk Audit Conducted</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Fifty-Three Total Standards Audited</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>16 Food Service &amp; Hygiene Standards, 13 Medical Standards, 4 Mental Health Standards, and 20 Programs &amp; Services Standards</u></b></li> <li>• Number of Standards Not Applicable: 0</li> <li>• Number of Recommended Standards in Compliance: 53</li> </ul>
<b>Auditor:</b>	Kristin Herrmann
<b>Youth Interviews:</b>	One male and one female were interviewed.
<b>Youth Responses:</b>	One youth stated that they did not like the food at all, while the other said that some days the food was good and other days not so much, but it was tolerable. Both confirmed that they had received all the necessary items during intake and that they receive clean bedding twice a week and clean clothing every day. Neither youth had any complaints or concerns about their medical or mental health. They both shared that they felt their medical and mental health were taken seriously, presented in a way that they understood, and was kept confidential. One youth even said that therapist was great.
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	None
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None

<b>Standards:</b>	<b><u>Administration Standards</u></b>
<b>File Review Only</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Sixty-One Total Standards Audited</u></b></li> <li>• <b><u>61 Administration Standards</u></b></li> <li>• Number of Standards Not Applicable: 3</li> <li>• Number of Recommended Standards in Compliance: 58</li> </ul>
<b>Auditor:</b>	Kristin Herrmann
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	None
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None

Was the facility required to implement a corrective action plan as a result of the audit? **NO**/YES

## **CONCLUSION**

Youth Care Center chose to be audited on the proposed standards, which corresponds with the current (301) detention standards and received a score of 100% compliance with the mandatory standards and 100% of the recommended standards.

**The facility received a separate scoresheet indicating their level of compliance with the new proposed detention standards.**

Therefore, Youth Care Center is in compliance with the 2020 Indiana Detention Center Standards Audit performed by the Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services.

A certificate of compliance will accompany this report, which becomes public information ten (10) days from the date of mailing.

Please contact me at (812) 929-3980 should you have any questions concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

**Rachel McCaffrey**

Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections  
Indiana Department of Correction/Division of Youth Services

cc: Terrie Decker, DYS, Executive Director of Youth Services  
Honorable Brent Niemeier, Circuit Court  
Rian Kisner, Executive Director  
pursuant to 210 IAC 8-1-5(f)  
File